



NEWS RELEASE

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143rd MILITARY POLICE UNIT TO RECEIVE VALOROUS UNIT AWARD

WEST HARTFORD, Conn., - Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard, announces that the 143rd Military Police Company (MP) has been awarded the Department of the Army Valorous Unit Award for their service in Iraq.

The award presentation will take place on Sunday, April 2, 2006, 2:00 p.m. at the State Armory in Hartford.

The Department of the Army is recognizing and honoring the dedicated service of the Soldiers of the 143rd MP Company for extraordinary heroism while engaged in military operations against an armed enemy.

Part of the citation reads, "Against an insurgent enemy, the unit worked tirelessly to provide a stable Iraqi security force and to improve the lives of its citizens after the fall of a tyrannical regime. The unit members enlisted all available resources to ensure the success of the Iraqi Police Force and security of the Coalition assets. Through unfailing tenacity, courage and gallantry, unit personnel significantly advanced freedom's borders into the Middle East and were a valuable asset in the Global War on Terror."

(MORE)

CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD



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“This exceptional performance and professionalism displayed by Connecticut’s 143rd Military Police Company reflects the highest traditions of military service. Every soldier should take great pride in this significant team accomplishment,” said Martin.

The 143rd MP Company secured, then provided security for a prison in Western Baghdad, conducted patrolling operations, and trained the Iraqi Police while under constant attack. The unit was also responsible for the arrest of numerous criminals and the capture of sizeable caches of illegal weapons and ammunition.

The unit trained more than 300 Iraqi police, safeguarded 150,000 civilians, processed more than 670 Iraqi prisoners and conducted more than 130 raids.

This event is open to the media.

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